A Radio Message for YOU!

The Mission Trail

Box 99 Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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"LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS; FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST." — JOHN 4:35

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"He Thought Within Himself"

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. . . Friends, it gives me pleasure to be coming your way once again by means of radio with a short message from the Word of God. I hope you will stay tuned to this station for I believe I have something that will be both interesting and helpful to you. Not long ago while sitting in the Sunday School class and listening to the scripture reading and the discussion, I received an inspiration for this message. So without further introduction here is the scripture reading.

"Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead? I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth. Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them. And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto strange cities." Acts 26:8-11.

This is the testimony of the Apostle Paul. He told how he had thought within himself to persecute the church and the Lord's people. But here is what I want you to notice. "I verily thought with myself." I would say that God was not pleased at all with his thoughts. They were contrary to the ways and thoughts of God. How often this is true, friends. Men often think within themselves certain things which are not right at all.

Here is another example.

"And he spoke a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

"But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." Luke 12:16-21.

Do you see what happened to that rich man who "thought within himself"? He thought he was going to live to enjoy the many fruits and goods which his ground had produced, but he was mistaken. He was not thinking correctly. His life was taken and he was called to give account for his soul.

Listen to what Isaiah 65:2 says about this: "I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way that was not good, after their own thoughts."

And again in Psalms 10:4-7: "The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts. His ways are always grievous; thy judgments are far above out of his sight: as for all his enemies, he puffeth at them. He hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved: for I shall never be in adversity. His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud: under his tongue is mischief and vanity."

Now even before the flood, men's thoughts went astray from God. Listen to this verse. "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Genesis 6:5.

Let me explain that men in their natural state are filled with their own ways and are not willing to accept the ways of God. Here is another scripture. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:8-9.

Here is further proof of it. I quote again. "For they know not the thoughts of the Lord, neither understand they his counsel: for he shall gather them as the sheaves into the floor." Micah 4:12. But examples are sometimes worth more than just words. So I want to give three examples. Here they are. First I refer you to Haman that wicked man who schemed to put to death many innocent people. But let me show you how he was mistaken in his thinking. I quote.

"So Haman came in. And the king said unto him, What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour? Now Haman thought in his heart, To whom would the king delight to do honour more than to myself?" Esther 6:6.

You see, Haman thought he was going to be honored, but he was mistaken. It was his enemy Mordecai a godly man whom the king chose to honor. Nevertheless, Haman had the honor to lead the horse through the streets and announce that Mordecai was being honored at the command of Ahasuerus. However, this did not bring him much delight for he would much rather have been riding in the seat of honor.

Here is another example. I quote from Daniel 4, beginning with verse 4. "I Nebuchadnezzar was at rest in mine house, and flourishing in my palace: I saw a dream which made me afraid, and the thoughts upon my bed and the visions of my head troubled me."

Now Nebuchadnezzar was a great king, and God had permitted him to have much honor. But look, his thoughts began to trouble him. And I guess he had a right to be troubled for his kingdom was taken from him, and he ate grass like the oxen for seven years until he learned that God ruled in the kingdoms of men and gave them to whomsoever He will. Nebuchadnezzar had become lifted up and proud. But when he acknowledged that power and might which came from the hands of the Almighty, he was again permitted to return to his throne.

My next example is that of Belshazzar. Do you remember the king who blasphemed the things of God and drank wine from the golden vessels of the Lord? Do you remember the writing on the wall which the magicians could not read? But listen.

"Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another." Daniel 5:6. Yes, I agree. I can well see why his thoughts troubled him. He failed to find an answer within himself. He sought for the wisdom of God. This was found in Daniel.

Here is another time when a person's thoughts troubled him. I quote. "And the second time the cock crew. And Peter called to mind the word that Jesus said unto him, Before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice. And when he thought thereon, he wept." Mark 14:72. Peter found relief from his failure by repenting.

You see, our thoughts are fully known to God anyway. Listen. "O Lord, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off." And again: "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Hebrews 4:12.

And then this final scripture of hope. "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will harken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:11-13.

Friends, let me offer this bit of advice to one and all--drop our own personal thoughts. Let us each one do this and accept the thoughts of God. It is not within our own ability to direct our lives, but we need God's thoughts, God's guidance, and God's holy spirit to lead us in the way which goes from earth to glory. Let us not walk after the lusts of the flesh and after the will of men, but let us be transformed through the renewing of our minds that we may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Let us pray.

Our Father,

It is with a sense of humility that we come before thee, the all-wise and powerful creator of all. Bless the words of the message to every heart in Jesus' name, and to thee we will give the praise forever. Amen

Now I want to have a song in memory of your mother and mine. Friends, if you had a godly mother, I hope that you have not forgotten her teaching. Here is the song, "Mother and Home". The singers are Maybelle Pruitt, Marie Miles, Elbert Johnson and Willie Murphey.

This message has been brought your way by THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie, Oklahoma. We are trusting God by faith and those who hear and read the message each week to keep it going forth on the air and through the mail. Now until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying may God's richest blessings be with each of you and a very cheerful good-bye!

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Possession Is More Than Profession Only

"Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." Ephesians 5:14-16.

"Dear Bro. Willie, Sis. Frances, and family, Greetings in Jesus' dear name. We praise the Lord this morning for salvation and deliverance from sin and death. Truly our hearts go up in gratitude to our God when we think of the great price He paid by giving His only son that we could be free from the world and the bondage therein. I think we each one need to sit down some times and count our many blessings. I don't believe we would be so apt to murmur and complain. . . We are living in a day that people take God so lightly. It seems they can be so careless and yet think they are justified. I believe the Bible tells us over in Rev. 3:15, 'I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm and neither cold or hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.' No doubt, there are many souls being spued out of the mouth of God because they won't measure up. . . I've searched my heart many times, and I've told the Lord I would rather be an out and out sinner than to be a professor without any salvation. I feel He would have more mercy on me. In order for us to get help from God we must acknowledge we need help.

"We are surely living in dangerous times. There is no time to play religion. If there ever was a time that the saints of God needed to be real examples, it's now. There are many people claiming to be Church of God, but you can't tell them from the world.

"Bro. Willie, we want to thank you for putting the notice of our meeting in the paper although I did get it there too late. The Lord blessed us with a good meeting. Not too many came out, but someone new came every night. If they had all come back each night, we would soon had a good crowd. . .

"Lord willing, we plan to take the tent out next month some time. Mart plans to take it over in the mountains of West Virginia. We will surely need your prayers. It's hard to go in a new place and some get saved and then have to leave them. There's just not enough consecrated workers to go around it seems. It was hard for us to make the consecration to come here in Kentucky, but the Lord has been so faithful to bless our souls and encourage our hearts when we've met with discouraging things. . . I believe we are living in that day. The Lord is separating the precious from the vile. We are encouraged to press on. If we can just help one soul make it to Heaven it will be worth all the sacrifice we'll ever have to make. . . Love and prayers," --Sis. Verna Samons, Route 2, Box 156 Danville, Kentucky 40422.

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Testimonies

From Oklahoma: ". . . Greetings of love to all in the name of our dear Saviour. This finds me rejoicing that my name is written in Heaven. Sister Ruth Murphey has been here over a week having meeting. How wonderful! Some went to the altar. . . Pray for me that the dear Lord can say well done thy good and faithful servant and take me home to Heaven. . . I love Jesus." --Sister Mary Whitmore

From Arkansas: "Dear Friends: Greetings of love to all of you this beautiful day in the name that excels--power for more than we can comprehend--the precious name of Jesus. Isn't He wonderful? Today He is still bringing great joy to my heart, joy in knowing He loves me so good, joy in knowing and feeling the assurance I'm His child and can confide. . . and faith to believe He hears and answers prayers daily. . . . We're enjoying our Sunday evening services, and we're asking the Lord to send us a minister to hold a good revival. What could be better? We feel sure the Holy Spirit is already at work on it. We don't feel like we're asking too much. Our finances aren't much to help out, but God knows that too. We get just what we expect of the Lord and I'm expecting great things, and He knows." --Sister Lou Bray

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From Missouri: ". . . Peace and joy be with you for ever in Jesus' name. I feel better. Today is my 78th birthday. Please keep praying for me in Jesus' name. I want to tell this sinful world it's time to get in touch with God and get saved. Time is short. . . I was on my dying bed and He picked me up in His loving arms and restored me back to life. Praise His sweet name. It's a great pleasure to serve Him. His yoke is easy, His burdens are light. It would take a long time to tell what I went through with my sins before I repented. I was scalded and mashed up in a wreck with a steam engine. I am a steam engineer by trade. May the Lord bless you real good. Bye for now." --W. D. Harman

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"I do love the Word of God and His people. I desire to be remembered in your prayer that I might know God's will and be obedient."

--Mrs. J. C. Morris

From Pennsylvania: "Dear Brother Murphey and family, Greetings to all of you in the name of our wonderful Lord. God bless you as you labor for Him. I enjoy the Mission Trail so much. I read it to Mother. She is now 82 and has stood for the 'Truth' which she found by reading God's word. I do thank God for a Christian mother. There were 11 of us and one died in 1918 so 10 she raised to be grown. Her trust in God for all of us and laying on of hands for other people would really be a book to write. In these days of turmoil, strife, unbelief in God it is such a blessing to know there are saints who are holding true. . . Your sister in Him," --Eva Cox

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From Washington: ". . . I want to thank you for the book of poems. I enjoy reading them. . . I am trusting God and hope and pray I always will as my days are getting short on earth, and I want a resting place as I suffer here. . . Keep praying for me as I need your prayers. God bless you and your family." --Sis. Carrie Westrope

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From Wisconsin: ". . . I surely was glad you came for Easter services. I know we all enjoyed them very much. The time is coming when we won't be able to enjoy things and get together like we can now. Duane and I want to be able to do something for the Lord no matter where it may lead us. I desire that you remember us in prayer that we may do His will. . . Love in Christ," --Duane, Sue LaVeau & family

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From Wisconsin: "We were happy to hear from you and that you got home without accident. Sorry to hear of Bro. Gibson's departure, but I am sure her loss is his gain and trust the Lord will sustain her in the lonely hours. . ."

--Sister Frank Dietrich

From Kansas: ". . . Today finds me still saved and real encouraged in the Lord. I haven't been well in body for sometime, but I am much better and thankful that all is as well as it is. We surely do enjoy the Mission Trail. I was so sorry to hear of Bro. Gibson's passing. Oh, how well I remember those wonderful sermons I used to hear him preach. I trust the Lord will bless his family. . . We have some serious problems that we are trusting the Lord to work out. Remember them with us. Sincerely yours in Christ,"

--Frances Chandler

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From Illinois: "Dear Mission Trail workers, Greetings in Jesus' precious name. I am still enjoying the Mission Trail paper. Keep up the good work. Cry aloud and spare not. Tell the people their sins. I am requesting prayer. Have had the flu and am so weak from it, and I have arthritis so bad. The flu seems to all have settled in my lower limbs. I am trusting God for all my needs and am so happy in his great love and am on the winning side with Jesus. Prayers and Christian love to all there. In his great love,"

--Sister Bertha Gill

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". . . I read the Word like in Psalm 37 beginning with the 3rd verse, and it says: 'Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord;' (that's one of my favorite scriptures). . . 'and he shall bring it to pass.' "

--Opal Williams

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"I'm fine and enjoying my certain share in life and trying to be a friend of God and have a Saviour."

--Theresa Quave

"I am yet saved and encouraged to press the battle on for the Lord."

--Annie Bowen

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Go Forth!

"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Psalms 126:6.

God's words to thee are spoken:
"Go forth, the fields to reap;
His promise is His token
That He thy soul will keep.
Heed not what voice may call thee,
Turn not one hour aside;
Tho' world and flesh entice thee,
Do thou in Christ confide.

He calls; why should'st thou linger?
The harvest fields are white;
Should doubt or danger hinder,
Walk thou in God's own light.
Go where and when He sends thee;
His will seek thou to know;
Thy God will ever lead thee,
And every step will show.

To all who go obeying,
Rich promises He gives;
All needed strength conveying,
From Him who ever lives.
Thy way is straight before thee;
The gates are all unbarred;
While mighty love impels thee,
No pathway will be hard.

Go where the lost are dying
Because of guilt and sin;
Go! on Love's pinions flying,
For Christ a world to win.
His grace will now sustain thee
His strength shall thee enshrine;
No foe shall e'er o'erwhelm thee
While Christ the Lord is thine.

--Selected

at press time

we understand:

Bro. Richard Madden suffered a severe attack with his heart last week, but we are thankful the Lord saw fit to touch his body, and it is reported that he is improving and feeling better but yet very weak. Continue to remember him in prayer.

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Our best wishes are extended to Merle Dean Porter and his new bride Shirley (Weir) Porter who were married Saturday, May 11, here in Guthrie. Many friends and relatives were present at the ceremony.

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My sister, Mrs. J. R. Kelly, of Shreveport, Louisiana who has been sick for some months died Sunday. Her funeral was set for Tuesday, May 14. Many thanks to those who remembered her with cards, letters, flowers and with their prayers. May the dear Lord bless and reward each one. Willie

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A sister who is 82 years old and lives in Oregon wrote and told how God healed her of very painful arthritis. After much prayer and waiting on the Lord she obtained the witness and went on to write: "I said, Praise God. The dear Lord has healed me, and she said Praise God, and we both wept. I have had no trouble since, and I go out for walks and am perfectly well. Thank the dear Lord. . ." --Margaret Travis

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From the Senior Citizen's Home of California: "Brother and Sister Stover are well and doing a good work for the Lord." --Murtice Hurst

From Ohio: "To the dear Murphey family, I send greetings of love across the miles in Jesus' dear name. I know I should have written sooner but just put off writing. We are enjoying the blessings of God in our soul, although the enemy comes to us in full force with his accusations. We have One that is always ready to lift up a standard against him. We had a real good meeting while Bro. and Sis. Wilson were with us. Two came forward for a closer walk with God. And that is the desire of my heart also to get a little closer to Him. I'm glad it's possible for us to live for the Lord in this life. God doesn't expect us to do the impossible, for He will do that. I'm glad for His dealings with me. Here some time back there was a wart came out on my face. I had asked different ones to pray that the Lord would take it off and told the Lord if He would, that I would testify in the Mission Trail. The Lord caused it to come off all but just a little (it looked like a pimple) that was left. Time went on, and I never sent in my testimony, so here it is again, just like it was before, so I asked the Lord to forgive me and desire your prayers. I'm looking for Him to completely remove it for His glory. We had better be very careful how we promise anything and not do it. . . This coming Sunday, May 12, will be our last all-day service until after campmeetings are over. Would you please print that in the Mission Trail for us? . . . Yours in Him," --Verga McCoy, 24 Belpre Place, Dayton, Ohio 45403

THE MISSION TRAIL, originating in Guthrie, Okla., is broadcast by radio and published weekly in printed form by Willie and Frances Murphey with the help of others. It is mailed free of charge to those who request it. Its purpose is to reach the hungry hearts of the unsaved everywhere with the gospel which will save them. Its principal support comes from the free will contributions of its listeners and readers. Those who feel directed by the Lord to assist may do so by sending their offering to: THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.

For some it will come true: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jer. 8:20. Let us hasten with the message which Jesus gave: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

Broadcast Schedule

Listen for THE MISSION TRAIL weekly on one of the following stations:

RADIO STATION	LOCATION	DIAL SETTING	TIME
KXOW	Hot Springs, Ark.	1420 kc.	Sunday, 7:15 a.m.
KCLO	Leavenworth, Kans.	1410 kc.	Sunday, 3:00 p.m.
WFPR	Hammond, La.	1400 kc.	Sunday, 7:45 a.m.
KCKW	Jena, La.	1480 kc.	Sunday, 7:30 a.m.
KCIJ	Shreveport, La.	980 kc.	Sunday, 7:30 a.m.

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